Sun, 22 Oct 89 Volume 89 : Issue 791 INFO-HAMS Digest Today's Topics: crossband repeater Earthquake in SF!!! Guemes Island followup Heathkit antenna tuner How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do? Phonepatches to San Fransisco (2 msgs) Date: 12 Oct 89 23:23:24 GMT From: pacbell!sactoh0!unify!csusac!mmsac!jim@ames.arc.nasa.gov (Jim Lips Earl) Subject: crossband repeater In article <5214@cbnewsm.ATT.COM>, nk30@cbnewsm.ATT.COM (JEFF ZELL NK30) writes: Can anyone out there in net land inform me how to modify the TM701 > dual band Kenwood 2m/70cm mobile for repeater operation. I recall > hearing somewhere that it can be done but, never found out how to > perform the modifaction. > > > Thanks in advance > > 73 > NK30 Jeff Jeff: Try calling Kenwood in Los Angeles. They were very helpful explaining how to modify my TW-4100a into a cross-band repeater. They even sent me the instructions on how to do it! Kenwood: (213) 639-4200 -tell them you need technical info for your model #. Jim "Lips" Earl UUCP: sun!sacto!mmsac!jim KB6KCP INTERNET: mmsac!jim@sacto.West.Sun.COM ______ The opinions stated herein are all mine. _____ Date: 19 Oct 89 14:27:28 GMT

From: pacific.mps.ohio-state.edu!ohstpy!pedro@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Pedro

Saizar (614-292-7881))

Subject: Earthquake in SF!!!

In article <1114@tundra.misemi>, chiprout@tundra.misemi (test) writes:

- > If anyone has news about the quake: damage, reports, news, etc. please
- > post. How have companies been affected?
- > --
- > Eli Chiprout (Test Engineer) uunet!mitel!chiprout
- > MITEL Semiconductor
- > 350 Legget Dr., Kanata, Ontario
- > Tel. (613)592-2122

Can anyone tell us which cities were mostly affected? A short status per city would be helpful. I'd like to distribute some news through some Latin American mailing lists, since there are lots of latinos in California.

Please post or reply to:

Internet: pedro@mps.ohio-state.EDU

Bitnet: pedro@ohstpy

Thank you.

Pedro Saizar

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Date: 22 Oct 89 01:36:15 GMT

From: pilchuck!ssc!tad@uunet.uu.net (Tad Cook)

Subject: Guemes Island followup

Fred, K1IO sez, regarding Guemes Island:

Well, Tad, it was a good hack, but I for one don't think it's a"new one" either.

What we see is an example of badly written rules. Laws aren't usually written by amateurs (legislators have staff assistants) and rules, like laws, have both a "spirit" and a "letter". Poorly drafted rules like DXCC rule 3b are prone to sloppy interpretation, but clearly the "spirit" of the rule was not to make Guemes a country.

Come to think of it, can you draw a line from Galveston Island, TX to some little island in Southern CA that doesn't cross northern Mexico? Campobello, ME to Mercer Is, WA without crossing Ontario?

Tad did a good job of proving that the DXCC rules are sloppily written. IMHO, not much more.

Tad sez:

Fred has a good point about drawing a line from Texas to California via Mexico. This is a problem with the rule writers not putting a maximum distance in the rule, and specifically saying that you don't need a minimum distance. Otherwise you could draw lines via the great circle route, and every island could be a new country!

Perhaps a minimum and a maximum distance should be specified in the rule.

But the question remains, what kinds of islands was rule 3b meant for? Only those that are not near the U.S., so that they seem exotic to U.S. hams? What about the rest of the world? Is DXCC only a U.S. oriented award?

There was one thing that I found very interesting when Rick Roderick (DXAC Chairman) called me on the phone the day before my Guemes operation. It sounded like from his comments that the current DXCC rules are meant to be exclusionary; that is, there never was any intention to allow any new countries to come out of the rewrite. This seems a shame. Nothing injects more excitement into the DX game than when a "new one" comes on the air. Now I am not suggesting that the DXCC list be diluted with hundreds of new countries, but if an entity qualifies under the rules, why exclude it? Rick kept treating my application as though it were done through some frivolous loophole, but to me the rule is very clear.

Tuesday night I had an enjoyable visit with my friend Victor, UA90S, who is visiting Seattle. I was discussing with him this strange U.S. oriented bias that I spoke about in my posting, in which an entity may not be considered DX in this country if it is too close to the United States. I pointed out that if Guemes Island were in the Red Sea, that my application would probably be taken seriously.

To my surprise, Victor said, "Oh yes, we have the same situation in the Soviet Union with MV Island! Too close to Leningrad to be DX!"

Apparently many Soviet hams feel the same way about MV Island that some U.S. hams do about Guemes; not exotic enough to be DX! Not only that, but the folks who went there only had to ride a ferry (as I did to Guemes) to put it on the air! Certainly pales in comparison to Spratly or Heard.

Someone recently told me about an interesting definition of many of the DXCC countries that do not qualify under rule 1 (government). He said that a DXCC country is an entity, that at the time that a petition was filed for separate country status, did qualify under the rules at that time. Then when a rule was changed, or the status changed, it was grandfathered. I believe that Guemes should be given the same consideration.

There are many DXCC countries like this. Look at Alaska, Hawaii, and the various Soviet Republics. They would not count today, but did at one time, and so they are grandfathered under the rules.

So, what will happen? I think that Guemes could be approved if lots of hams really stop and study the rules and think about the things I have said. If Don Search really meant what he said in October CQ about how THE RULES MUST BE ENFORCED AS WRITTEN, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, then we have a good chance. But I fear he only meant it on an exclusionary basis; in other words, the rules must be enforced as long as no new countries are approved!

73,

Tad Cook
KT7H @ N7HFZ
tad@ssc.UUCP

MCI Mail: 328-8544

Date: 21 Oct 89 20:22:17 GMT

From: bbn.com!brosen@bbn.com (Bruce L. Rosen)

Subject: Heathkit antenna tuner

I am considering purchasing the Heathkit SA2060 "deluxe" antenna tuner. If you have built or used it, I'd appreciate your review of it.

Thanks.

-- Bruce K1FFX

Date: 21 Oct 89 16:20:40 GMT

From: asuvax!anasaz!john@handies.ucar.edu (John Moore)

Subject: How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do?

In article <6667@sybase.sybase.com> forrest@sybase.com writes:

]For a long time I have watched and listened to many emergency]preparedness efforts that have taken place. I don't take part in]them because based on my experiences in several major earthquakes]and other lesser disasters, I've learned that most of this well]intentioned work doesn't amount to much. What usually happens is]that there is about 80% chaos, confusion, and needless running

]Please don't misunderstand what I'm saying. Ham Radio should play]a vital role in providing communications after a disaster. It has]proved itself many times. All I'm saying is that I don't think that la lot of the organization and effort that goes into Ham Radio emergency lpreparedness is worth it.

I mostly agree. However, practice working WITH non hams does pay off it lets them know our capabilities and limitations, and lets us know who is involved in what.

John Moore NCS Hurricane Watch Net

John Moore (NJ7E) mcdphx!anasaz!john asuvax!anasaz!john (602) 861-7607 (day or eve) long palladium, short petroleum 7525 Clearwater Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85253 The 2nd amendment is about military weapons, NOT JUST hunting weapons!

Date: 20 Oct 89 15:40:00 GMT

From: pur-phy!tippy!fireman@ee.ecn.purdue.edu

Subject: Phonepatches to San Fransisco

Why do you say that the jammers "Surely are not hams?"

Rob Dale ++ N8GSK .=. tippy!fireman
Purdue University .=. @newton.physics

Atmospheric Sciences .=. .purdue.edu

Date: 22 Oct 89 01:01:02 GMT

From: pilchuck!ssc!tad@uunet.uu.net (Tad Cook)

Subject: Phonepatches to San Fransisco

Jim Ehrmin questioned the appropriateness of hams handling phone

patches into the quake area, while the news media was asking folks not to call, due to the heavy calling volume.

The long distance carriers (AT&T, Sprint, MCI, Allnet, etc) were using local call blocking to help keep the SF area network from getting worse due to too many calls from the outside. So when you dialed 1-415, you heard a recording from your local tandem toll switch to try later.

What I heard on 20 and 40 mtrs were hams within the 415 and 408 area codes collecting phone numbers so that they could make short phone calls to check on the welfare of loved ones. This was bypassing the overloaded long distance carriers to make the connection more direct. I don't see much problem with this. True, the local network was overloaded with intra-LATA calls, but I don't think that 4 or 5 hams within the local areas making calls to check loved ones for hams who had seen pictures of the collapsed freeway and bridge section was wrong.

The telephone network held up very well, considering everything. Within 14 hours of the earthquake, using MCI or AT&T, it only took about 7 or 8 attempts to get through to 415 from Seattle.

One intersting story I heard was that AT&T had a main fiber optic cable, with a capactiy of hundreds of thousands of calls, running under the collapsed bridge section on the bay bridge! When the section collapsed, it took a major AT&T route into SF with it!

My mom works with a fellow who needed to call a pottery shop in SF, so he waited until 5:01 PM Tuesday, when the rates got cheaper. He was talking to a fellow in the shop, when the guy remarked that "OH...we seem to be having one of those little tremors"...then he heard some commotion of some kind, and the fellow sounded VERY upset....followed by a HUGE CRASH (remember, this was a POTTERY shop!) and CLICK! We figure the click was the sound of the AT&T FO cable being severed.

73,

Tad Cook Seattle, WA tad@ssc.UUCP KT7H @ N7HFZ MCI Mail: 328-8544

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #791 **************